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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

In re  
N.C.P. Marketing Group, Inc., et al.,

Debtors.

CHAPTER 11 Joint Administration  
Case No. BK-04-51071

SALANS' JOINDER TO THE  
DEBTORS' OPPOSITION TO THE  
BLANKS PARTIES' MOTION TO  
CONVERT THE CHAPTER 11  
CASES TO CHAPTER 7

Hearing Date: April 5, 2006  
Hearing Time: 3:00 p.m.

TO THE HONORABLE GREGG ZIVE  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT:

Salans, the third-largest creditor in the above-captioned Chapter 11 cases, with a claim in excess of \$900,000 for unpaid legal fees, hereby joins in and supports the Debtors' Opposition to the Blanks Parties' Motion to Convert the Chapter 11 Cases to Chapter 7 (the "Opposition"). The Blanks Parties' allegations of corrosive administrative costs and prejudicial delay are exaggerated, and ultimately incorrect. Furthermore, brought on the eve of briefing a matter in the Ninth Circuit to which they are a party, the very timing of the Blanks Parties' Motion is suggestive of a self-interested motive as opposed to, as they purport, an altruistic concern for the creditor class as a whole. Consequently, there is no basis for converting the Chapter 11 cases to Chapter 7.

1 In any event, conversion is unwarranted given the express assent by insiders to tolling  
2 agreements. The fear of depleting estate assets disappears in light of the tolling agreements, for the  
3 Blanks Parties themselves note in their Motion that as much as \$10 million may be available  
4 through adversary proceedings, provided that the statute of limitation does not expire. The tolling  
5 agreements prevent this from happening, and so resolve the issue of how to fund reorganization if  
6 the Appeal does not succeed.

### 7 8 ARGUMENT

#### 9 I. The Minimal Ongoing Costs of Maintaining a Chapter 11 Administration 10 Present No Pressing Rationale for Converting to Chapter 7 Cases.

11 The touchstone for analyzing a motion to convert is the interest of the creditor class as a  
12 whole. 11 U.S.C. § 1112(b). In the present case, Salans is a substantial creditor without a direct  
13 interest in the outcome, unlike the Blanks Parties, of the present Ninth Circuit Appeal. As a result  
14 of it not being a direct participant in the Appeal, it is dispassionate on the question of what is in the  
15 best interests of creditors.

16 Continuing on the present course is a strategy favored by the creditor class as a whole,  
17 because it provides the maximum upside potential with the minimum amount of cost. While the  
18 Appeal is certainly not in the Blanks Parties' interests—because the estate is working against their  
19 creditor interest—to convert now to Chapter 7 would doom the average creditor's recovery to  
20 nothing. Consequently, creditors generally, and certainly Salans (in contrast to the Blanks Parties),  
21 do not wish to give up on an Appeal which could turn out to be their winning ticket.

23 Furthermore, the Motion should not be granted because the Blanks Parties' other arguments  
24 are without merit. Again, it is certainly rational for the Blanks Parties to raise the spectre of  
25  
26

1 administrative costs or prejudice, but they are simply not legally present in this case.

2  
3 With regard to administrative costs, the test for conversion looks to a broad evaluation of  
4 the estate's costs and potential assets. *In re Moore Construction, Inc.*, 206 B.R. 436, 437-38  
5 (Bankr. N.D.Tex. 1997). Seen from this perspective, conversion is not appropriate here because, in  
6 the short term, it in fact increases the rate of erosion to the estate (because of the start-up costs  
7 associated with establishing Chapter 7), and longer term, it deprives the creditor class of what has  
8 been their hope through two rounds of litigation: that the Debtors will be able to assume lucrative  
9 licensing rights as against Billy Blanks.

10  
11 Furthermore, with regard to prejudicial delay, the Blanks Parties again misstate the  
12 applicable standard. Actual prejudice to the creditor class must be demonstrated before a  
13 bankruptcy court has cause to order conversion. *In re Sheehan*, 58 B.R. 296, 300 (Bankr. D.S.D.  
14 1986). Here the Blanks Parties fail to provide compelling grounds for conversion because they  
15 demonstrate no actual prejudice suffered by the creditor class. Indeed, any such alleged harm  
16 would be cured, as described in more detail below, by the tolling agreements now to be put in place  
17 with insiders.

18  
19 II. Conversion to Chapter 7 Would Be Premature Because Rehabilitation Does  
20 Not Rely on the Prospect of a Successful Appeal before the Ninth Circuit.

21 The Blanks Parties assert in their Motion that only a single factor—whether or not the  
22 Debtor can sell Tae Bo brand videos—will determine whether or not the plan of reorganization will  
23 be successful. (*See, e.g.*, Motion, pp. 1, 7.) As a consequence, they argue, because the Debtor's  
24 ability to sell Tae Bo brand videos hinges on the pending Appeal before the Ninth Circuit, the  
25 prospects for reorganization are only as good as the chances for a successful Appeal. Given that  
26 Courts have twice found against the Debtors on the licensing issue, it is understandable that the

1 viability of reorganization would lie precariously in the balance if reorganization were entirely  
2 dependent on the Appeal.

3  
4 The Blanks Parties overlook, however, an alternative source of revenue to fund  
5 rehabilitation: successful adversary proceedings against insiders. The Blanks Parties acknowledge  
6 that significant recovery actions could exist for the estate: more than \$10 million is owed to the  
7 Debtor by insiders and shareholders. (Motion, pp.1, 10.) The only reason such a basis is dismissed  
8 by the Blanks Parties as a viable means to pay off all creditors and jump-start the Debtors' media  
9 business is their presumption that because the time bar for fraudulent transfer and preference  
10 actions is impending (April 13, 2006), such an avenue for successful rehabilitation represents a  
11 dead-end. Here the Blanks Parties presume too much.

12  
13 The Blanks Parties did not anticipate that Debtors' counsel would do what they have done:  
14 we are advised that all relevant insiders have expressly promised to sign tolling agreements. To the  
15 extent that these promises are not reduced to an enforceable writing, Debtors' counsel proposes to  
16 initiate adversary proceedings prior to the cut-off for such actions. Such actions will extend the  
17 applicable term for statute of limitations and enable the Debtors to promptly pursue appropriate  
18 actions for the benefit of all creditors of the estate. In this way the estate has a future irrespective  
19 of the fate of the Ninth Circuit Appeal, and as long as there is no premature conversion, the creditor  
20 class as a whole should be able to realize this potential.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Salans respectfully requests that the Debtors' Motion be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: New York, New York  
March 6, 2006

SALANS

By: /s/ Claude Montgomery  
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## Certificate of Service

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that on March 6, 2006, I served or caused to be served, true and correct copies of SALANS' JOINDER TO THE DEBTORS' OPPOSITION TO THE BLANKS PARTIES' MOTION TO CONVERT THE CHAPTER 11 CASES TO CHAPTER 7 to all parties receiving email notice from the ECF system, and the below parties, by regular mail:

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